



The Carolina DX Association

WEEKLY DX NET 147.36 AT 0130Z
DX INFO REPEATERS 147.36 BOONE
147.18 CHARLOTTE

January, 1987

Scott Douglass, K2SD, Editor

- CURRENT DX ACTIVITY -

4M0ARV (YV0) planned for March 19 through 25. **4S7** should be active until Feb. 5. **4Z7T** will be a new **4X4** prefix activated by **4X6TT** (for you prefix hunters...). **5A0A** showing limited activity on 15 meter CW. **5H3Z0** reported on 3505 after 0230Z, also 14027 1700-1800Z - QSL via K0LST..... **5U7/12VA** on 14195 at 2000Z. Several **5V7** stations have been active - all are missionaries and can be found checking in with their QSL manager, **WB4LFM**, on 14265 at 1800Z. **K4MQG** reports that **5X5GK** has been very active on 14215 at 0500Z. **7P8DP** heard on 3795/7070/14168 - QSL via **W8MPW**. An operation by the Colvins is expected from **8Q7** sometime in Jan.

9Q5NW is now active - QSL via **AL7EL** - contact Gary, **K4MQG** for details - check 14185 at 2100Z, and 3795 after 0400Z. **CX0XY** (S. Shetland) is expected in early Feb. on all modes and bands. **K4MQG** notes **DF5UG/4S7** may be found on 14250 after 1400Z. **EL2SI** will be operated by **DJ6SI** Feb. 2-9. Look for **FG/TK5BL/FS** through Feb. 15 - if there is room in your log for the call....

FT8WA (Crozet) and **FT8ZA** (Amsterdam) are both active now. Anyone needing a GD on 75, check with **N4ZC** who often chats with **GD3RFK** around 2200Z. **K4LTA** will operate from **J6** Feb. 19-27. **J70A** will occur during the March ARRL SSB DX contest.

JW6WDA on 14195 after 1300 (**K4MQG**). Look for **K1CDW/J87** Jan. 19-27...I don't have any beef with that one... **K6JAJ/KH3** is active now. Scheduled to be active now is **KA2IJ/7J1** on **Dgasawara**..try 1907.5/1912.5/3570T

3795-3805/3850R, **3505/7005/7027/14027/etc.** **KK7K/DU** reports he is getting an Amp and a new Vertical - has been worked by **N4ZC** in the AM. **KN4BPL/KH3** is active now. Look for **LU6U0/Z** on S. Shetland now. An **S7** operation by **G4LJF** should be on thru Jan 20 on all bands. The Colvins have just surfaced as **S79KG** - will be on 'till Jan 24, according to **N4ZC**. **K4MQG** reports **UG6GAT** long and short path on 14190 after 1200Z, and also **UI8DAA** on 7008 after 1200Z.

V31JK, operated by **W9GW** is now on thru Feb 11. **VK0GC** is on Macquarie now - check 14220 after 1600Z. **VK0DA**, Heard Island, on 14215 at 0500 thru Jan 20. **VK9XW** will be leaving Christmas Island after 20 years, leaving no active amateur - Island may become a resort, thus increasing chances of increased operation in the future. **VK9Y** (Cocos-Keeling) may be active Feb 10-24 by Jim Smith (**VK9NS**) with the call **VK9YS**, and Bob **W5KNE** using **VK9YW**.

VP2MDB, operated by **W2WSL** now thru April. **VP8** - some possible activity from S. Shetland, S. Georgia, and S. Sandwich Islands during the last week of Jan by **VP8BLQ** and **G3SEJ/MM** if all goes well. **Y80WR** is on daily on 3795 at 2200Z - signals coming in from east, so all of you turn those 80 Meter beams that way..... **ZD7BJ** heard on 14166 after 1900Z on weekends.

SPRATLY ISLAND

Look for **1S1CK** in Feb. As all good DXers know, this is in Zone 26. The operation will be by **DUIUS** and **K7EP/DU**, with transport and protection from the DU Navy....cross fingers

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!!!

This issue of the CDXA PILEUP is the first under your new Editor for 1987. It will be difficult to follow in W4WMO's footsteps, and I know that all CDXA members join me in thanking Murphy for the fine job he did over the past two years in getting this newsletter out each month.

I will be instituting a few changes in format (and possibly content) as the months go by. I welcome any and all suggestions, so if you have any ideas or contributions, please drop me a line, or give a call on 147.18.

One of the format changes is already in place - the use of page 1 as a compendium of current DX and Contest news. Included will be excerpts from various DX bulletins, other newsletters, and personal reports from our own members which will be of use for the next few months. It is hoped that members will be able to save page one as a convenient operating aid and event reminder.

Another goal will be to include one or more technical articles in each issue. We have a number of articles from other club newsletters which should be of interest to you.... however, if any CDXA members have topics they would like to publish, PLEASE DO SO. I will be glad to work with anyone who would like to submit an article to the PILEUP.

Please bear with us as we take over these pages - we are using a new printer, I am adapting things to my own word processor, so there are bound to be a few bugs here and there, but working together I know things will work out.

de K2SD

***** 1987 DUES ARE NOW DUE *****

PLEASE SUBMIT \$15.00 CDXA DUES TO:

BILL JENNINGS, W4UNP
630 WHITEPINE DRIVE
CATAWBA, SC 29704

CDXA OFFICERS MEETING

The newly-elected CDXA officers met on December 26, 1986, to plan 1987 activities and discuss the future direction of the CDXA. Points of interest to all members follow:

- A new Associate Membership will be offered to anyone wishing to join CDXA, but who lives outside the repeater coverage of our two DX spotting repeaters (i.e., who can not copy ANY CDXA repeater). This will be a non-voting membership; Associate members will receive the PILEUP. Cost of an Associate Membership will be \$10.00.
- Since most of the W/K 4th district QSL bureau letters are handled by CDXA members, K4MQG is looking into the possibility of including a CDXA fact sheet in QSL packages mailed out to users of the QSL bureau. This might result in additional DXers becoming members of CDXA.
- There has been some interest in linking the 147.18 and 147.36 repeaters during the Wednesday evening weekly net. Roger Burt, N4ZC (our new Net Manager) feels he can control this during the net operation. In addition, it may be possible to develop additional linking capability in the future to more fully utilize both CDXA repeaters during contests and other high-DX activity periods.
- It was decided to hold the next CDXA meeting at the Royal Palace on the Saturday of the Charlotte Hamfest (March 22).
- We would like to start maintaining DX need lists for interested members. In order for this to work, it would require ACTIVE participation by participants. Watch this space for additional information.

Thanks to Skip, WA4UUP, for hosting this meeting!

WHAT ABOUT SOLAR FLUX, A-INDEX, and K-INDEX?

(from the FRC Newsletter)

When you listen to WWV at 18 minutes after the hour, do you wonder about the data that is reported and how to use it? NBS booklet #432 on NBS Time and Frequency tells what this data means, and how the indices are formulated. Much of the time and frequency chart data is published in the ARRL Handbook, but information on how the solar indices are figured is not generally published.

The SOLAR FLUX or first figure broadcast from WWV is a reading of flux units measured at 2800 MHZ (sun radiation) at local noon, 1700 UTC at the Alonquin Radio Observatory at Ottawa, Canada. Higher sunspot activity causes a rise in the flux figures. Example: a figure of over 200 gives generally good propagation up to 50 MHZ with good band openings. As the solar cycle decreases, the figures will drop to 100 or lower, and even 10 meters will not be open.

(Ed. Note: See the ARRL Handbook for a chart relating the solar flux to smoothed sunspot numbers).

The A-INDEX (sometimes referred to as the Aurora Index) is derived from eight successive 3-hour K-indices and gives an indication of how disturbed the geomagnetic field (of the Earth) has been over a 24 hour period. This index is observed at a station in Fredricksburg, VA. Figures higher than 20-25 will generally indicate that an Aurora can be observed at some place in the world.

The K-INDEX is a quasi-logarithmic index of geomagnetic activity over a 3-hour period, and ranges from 0 (very quiet) to 9 (very disturbed). It is obtained by determining the maximum deviation from the quiet day curve of the most disturbed component of the geomagnetic field. The K-Index reported is that observed at the Boulder, Colorado station. It is possibly the most

useful for a quick observation, especially when the index is changing and you wonder what the bands are doing.

Following the WWV figures has been most interesting on a daily basis especially when solar flares occur and the geomagnetic field acts up immediately, followed by a storm level condition about 24 hours later. VHFers can look for Aurora DX conditions by being acquainted with what to look for in these figures. The weekly propagation bulletins broadcast on Mondays from W1AW will also tell you what's happened and predictions of things to come. Why not use this free information to help your communications?

For further information, or a copy of NBS special publication #432, contact:

National Bureau of Standards
Radio Station WWV
2000 East County Rd. 58
Fort Collins, CO 80524.

CDXA CONTEST ACTIVITY

Many CDXA members enjoy contesting, and others use the various contest periods to increase their DXCC totals. We all benefit from the exchange of contest information during these contests. Our club also gains recognition when our combined club scores are published in QST or CQ. As our combined totals increase, so does our club "Prestige", and we are perceived as "serious" contesters and DXers.

In the Charlotte area we have two major contest stations which help contribute to our club score. N4ZC and AA4S have both put together very competitive contest stations, and those of us who operate from these stations enjoy and appreciate Roger and Ron's efforts.

There is a problem, however, which occurs again and again - there are never enough operators to fully utilize these stations, and therefore

the club combined score is not optimized.

We need to develop some new contest operators! Many members may be afraid that they don't have the skills to operate in a "heavy-duty" contest, so we have come up with an idea which may help us overcome this reluctance.....**CONTEST SCHOOL.** Roger Burt's school of Contest Broadcasting is being formed, and the best part is that it will be free of charge! N4ZC has suggested that we use the forthcoming ARRL CW and SSB contest weekends as a training opportunity; we usually do not mount a major effort during these contests, so the idea would be for interested operators to come to Roger's and get a guided introduction to the art of good contest operating. I used to think I was a pretty decent contest operator until Roger got a hold of me, and over the past few years I think I have learned a whole lot from him.. and, it's great fun operating a big station.....so, if you are interested, let N4ZC know ASAP.

FOR SALE

IC 751 Transceiver
IC AT500 HF Fully Automatic Tuner
IC SP3 Speaker
PS55 Power Supply
12 VDC Harness
IC SM6 Mike

Used only 2 month, above package for \$1200

Dentron W-2 Wattmeter.....\$20.00
Tempo Digital-100 Freq Meter..\$20.00
FT-901DM Xcvr - Vg Gd - \$450.00

Contact N4MH (803) 366-3823
or Murph, W4WMO.

DX REPEATER USE

Members and non-members are urged to call out DX on both repeaters. The format to use is: ": "80 meters, ZAI1AA, ZAI1AA, 3505, 3505 for ZAI1AA - (your call)". Let others know that 147.36 is to be used for DX spotting, not general rag chewing.

THE CAROLINA DX ASSOCIATION

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NOTE: If your mailing label does not show 86 or 87 in the corner, this is a one-time mailing of this bulletin. We would be glad to have you re-join CDXA!

WA4UNZ 86
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